

*[English]***Encroachment of Railway Land**

*476. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH:

DR. BALI RAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that railway lands worth crores of rupees are being encroached upon in different States;

(b) If so, the estimated acres of railway lands encroached upon; State-wise, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to remove encroachers and to protect the railway properties?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information about area of railway land under encroachment is not maintained State-wise but Zonal Railway-wise as Railway zones span over more than one state. The details are as follows:-

Railway	Area under encroachment (in hect.)
Central	64
Eastern	85
Northern	900
North Eastern	115
Northeast Frontier	304
Southern	83
South Central	84
South Eastern	715
Western	107
Total	2457

(c) Removal of encroachments on Railway land is a continuous process. Regular Inspections are done by the Railway officials to prevent fresh encroachments. New encroachments are removed as soon as they are noticed. Regarding old encroachments, action is taken to remove them under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 with the help of Civil Police.

To prevent encroachment on Railway land, construction of boundary wall and fencing in the vulnerable sections are undertaken. Planting of suitable trees/shrubs including quick growing thorny trees is also done.

*[Translation]***Train Accidents**

*477. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA:

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents which took place during June 1996 and April 1997, Zone-wise;

(b) the causes of these accidents;

(c) the number of people killed, injured and total loss suffered by Railways, Zone-wise;

(d) the number of accidents due to sabotage;

(e) the details of compensation given to victims; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check these train accidents in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Information regarding number of consequential train accidents during the period 1.6.96 to 30.4.97, casualties therein and cost of damage to railway property is as under:-

Rly	No. of accidents	No. of persons killed	No. of persons injured	Cost of damage to railway property (Rs. in lakhs)
Central	57	34	131	768.08
Eastern	27	24	72	760.23
Northern	51	27	38	440.34
N.E.	16	23	12	11.44
N.F.	17	34	69	127.18
Southern	37	9	18	577.26
S.C.	32	44	40	713.36
S.E.	61	12	47	823.28
Western	33	10	48	118.50
Metro	2	-	-	12.50
Konkan	3	-	-	20.10
Total	336	217	475	4372.27

Note: (1) Figures are provisional.

(2) Figures regarding cost of damage are for the period June 1996-March 1997.

Main causes of the accidents were human failure, equipment failure, sabotage and incidental factors.